

Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology 20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 2850 Chicago, IL 60606-3182 312.704.5300 www.jrcert.org

February 27, 2023

Weymouth Spence, Ed.D., R.T.(R) President Washington Adventist University 7600 Flower Avenue Takoma Park, MD 20912

## RE: Program #0639 Previous Accreditation Status: 5 Years Most Recent Site Visit: 10/2021

Dear Dr. Spence:

After review of the requested progress report, the continuing accreditation status of the associate degree radiography program sponsored by Washington Adventist University was considered at the February 21, 2023 meeting of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT). The JRCERT is the only agency recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDE) for the accreditation of traditional and distance delivery educational programs in radiography, radiation therapy, magnetic resonance, and medical dosimetry. Specialized accreditation awarded by the JRCERT offers institutions significant value by providing peer evaluation and by assuring the public of quality professional education in the radiologic sciences. The program was evaluated according to the **Standards for an Accredited Educational Program in Radiography (2021)**. The JRCERT took the following action:

## **PROBATION.**

Consistent with JRCERT Policy 10.100, this accreditation action is not subject to appeal.

The Committee based this decision on the program's non-compliance with **Standards One** and **Six** and requests an additional progress report documenting compliance with the following objectives:

**Objective 1.6** - Lack of assurance that the program publishes program effectiveness data (credentialing examination pass rate, job placement rate, and program completion rate) on an annual basis. (Provide assurance the program publishes its most recent program effectiveness data.)

The program is advised that in an effort to increase accountability and transparency, the program must publish, at a minimum, its most recent five-year average credentialing examination pass rate data, five-year average job placement rate data, and annual program completion rate data on its website to allow the public access to this information. It is noted the program currently publishes data from the 2016-2020 reporting period.

**Objective 6.1** - Lack of assurance that the program maintains the following program effectiveness data: Five-year average credentialing examination pass rate of not less than 75 percent at first attempt within six months of graduation. (Provide the 2019-2023 credentialing examination pass rate.)

The program's five-year (2018-2022) average credentialing examination pass rate at first attempt within six months of graduation is 53% (23/43).

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**Objective 6.2** - Lack of assurance that the program analyzes and shares its program effectiveness data to facilitate ongoing program improvement. (Provide the program's updated action plan for addressing the unmet credentialing examination benchmark.)

**Objective 6.4** - Lack of assurance that the program analyzes and shares student learning outcome data to facilitate ongoing program improvement. (Provide documentation that student learning outcome data is fully analyzed and shared with the program's communities of interest.)

The additional progress report is required by **December 1, 2023**. The progress report must be submitted via the JRCERT Accreditation Management Systems (AMS) and will be considered by the Board of Directors at the next available meeting after submission. Based on evaluation of the progress report, the Board of Directors will determine the appropriate accreditation action. An additional progress report may be required if the objectives are not adequately addressed.

Consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.400, the maximum compliance timeframe is 36 months. Based on the areas of noncompliance, the Board of Directors are maintaining the previously identified 36-month compliance timeframe. Therefore, the program must document compliance with all accreditation standards no later than **April 21, 2025**.

As required by the USDE and consistent with the **maximum** compliance timeframes set forth in JRCERT Policy 11.400, when the JRCERT Board of Directors determines that a program has failed to document compliance with the **Standards** and has not satisfactorily addressed the identified deficiencies, the existing accreditation status will be withdrawn. Such involuntary withdrawal of accreditation is considered an adverse accreditation action. The JRCERT defines an adverse action as involuntary withdrawal of accreditation. Involuntary withdrawal of accreditation status has been awarded. The Board may take adverse action prior to the expiration of the maximum compliance timeframe. Probationary status, as well as an adverse accreditation action, requires written notification to the United States Secretary of Education, the appropriate State licensing or authorizing agency, appropriate regional and/or other accrediting agencies, and the public.

Probationary Accreditation is an accreditation category and, consistent with JRCERT Policy 10.100, this action is not subject to appeal. Consistent with JRCERT Policy 10.700 (enclosed), the program must notify currently enrolled and accepted students, as well as the public via a website posting, of this status within 30 days of receipt of this letter. The program is required to submit a representative sample of such notification and list of recipients to the JRCERT no later than **March 27, 2023**.

The program is also advised that consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.600, the JRCERT reserves the right to conduct unannounced site visits of accredited programs. The sponsoring institution would be responsible for the expenses of any on-site evaluation.

The Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology Directors and staff wish you and the program faculty continued success in your efforts to provide a quality educational program. If we can be of further assistance, do not hesitate to contact the office.

Sincerely,

Julia L. Lasley, Ph.D., R.T.(R)(T) Chair

JLL/JAM/jm

copy: Program Director: Kristin A. Mitas, M.S., R.T.(R) Provost: Cheryl Kisunzu, Ph.D. Middle States Commission on Higher Education Maryland Higher Education Commission USDE ARRT

The JRCERT promotes excellence in education and elevates the quality and safety of patient care through the accreditation of educational programs in radiography, radiation therapy, magnetic resonance, and medical dosimetry.